

The Week's News!



keeps our community ticking!

Date: January 5–9, 2026

The Waltham Times is Waltham's local news publication, currently available online only. This printed compendium of articles from The Waltham Times is produced by volunteers for the benefit of readers who prefer hardcopy. We aim to have an official printed edition of The Waltham Times in the future, dependent of raising sufficient revenue through donations, grants and advertising to cover the cost of printing.



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Waltham inaugurates newly elected School Committee and City Council members

By Isabella Lapriore

January 5, 2026



Waltham's newest School Committee and City Council elects being sworn in by Judge Ellen M. Caulo. Photo by Isabella Lapriore.

Waltham inaugurated newly elected School Committee and City Council members at a ceremony held at Waltham High School on Jan. 4.

Waltham District Court Judge Ellen M. Caulo read the oath of office for three School Committee members and 15 city councilors, all of whom won their seats at the city's election on Nov. 4.

The City Council welcomed new councilors-at-large Emma Tzioumis and Tim King as well as returning at-large and ward councilors for two-year terms.

King said he is excited to start and is looking forward to getting into city business.

"We worked hard during our campaign, we listened to what people had to say and we hope to bring that voice to the city council," King said.



Members of the WHS Show Choir performed a medley of ‘Over the Rainbow’ and ‘Defying Gravity’ at the Inauguration. Photo by The Waltham Times.

Additionally, the City Council elected Ward 9 Councilor Robert G. Logan as council president, replacing Ward 4 Councilor John McLaughlin. Councilor-at-large Randall J. LeBlanc is replacing Ward 5 Councilor Joey LaCava as vice president.

“It’s a great honor to be elected to the presidency of the council,” Logan said. “This is our opportunity to make our contribution and do what we can to make

the city of Waltham even greater than it already is.”

The Waltham School Committee welcomed first-time elects Tammy Wong-Bigelow and Sabrina DeJoannis alongside returning vice chair Debbie Coleman for four-year terms.

Wong-Bigelow and DeJoannis both expressed their excitement to begin work in their new positions.

“I’m proud to serve, I’m honored to have been elected and a little nervous,” Wong-Bigelow said.

Coleman, McLaughlin and Katherine M. Clark, U.S. representative for Massachusetts’ 5th Congressional District, spoke at the ceremony. All three congratulated the elects in their speeches and emphasized the importance of community support and commitment to education.

“It has never been as vital to have people of integrity and compassion in public office right now when it seems that sometimes the worst voices can be the loudest, those who might view democracy as an inconvenience, might mistake cruelty for strength, those who think we can normalize greed as something admirable,” Clark said. “Waltham is proving them wrong.

DNA identifies Waltham native as man killed in 1982 fatal hit-and-run in Ohio

By Newsroom

January 7, 2026

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/06/dna-identifies-waltham-native-as-man-killed-in-1982-fatal-hit-and-run-in-ohio/

Right: Western Reserve Road in Boardman, Ohio, where a Waltham-born man was struck and killed by a car in 1982. Google Street Image.



After more than four decades of mystery, a man killed in a 1982 hit-and-run crash in Ohio has been identified as then-41-year-old Charles Joseph Nunnenman III, a Waltham native who later lived in Los Angeles.

The identification was announced this week by the DNA Doe Project, a nonprofit that uses genetic genealogy to help law enforcement identify unnamed victims of crime and tragedy. Nunnenman, long known only as “Western Reserve Road John Doe,” was struck and killed by a car on Aug. 12, 1982, in Boardman, a suburb of Youngstown, Ohio. The driver fled the scene but later turned herself in.

Despite local press coverage and a distinctive tattoo, Nunnenman’s body went unidentified for decades. Investigators found no identification and little to link him to his past.

That changed when the Mahoning County Sheriff’s Office turned to the DNA Doe Project for help. With funding from the Porchlight Project, an Ohio nonprofit dedicated to cold cases, genetic genealogists built a DNA profile and began searching for family connections through public databases.

Initial results pointed toward Irish ancestry. But a closer match later revealed ties to Massachusetts — and eventually to Nunnenman, who was born in Waltham in 1941. Investigators traced his lineage back to a man born in Ireland in 1836 and confirmed his identity after contacting Nunnenman’s niece, Natalie Bauerle of Florida, who provided a DNA sample.

While records show Nunnenman spent part of the 1960s in Los Angeles, his later life remained a mystery. Investigators have not said why or how he ended up in Ohio.

The Waltham Times has not located any family members who may still be in the Waltham area.

The DNA Doe Project thanked the Mahoning County Sheriff's Office, the Porchlight Project and other collaborators for helping "bring Charles Joseph Nunnenman home, at last."

Based in California, the DNA Doe Project has helped solve more than 150 cases across the country, returning names to unidentified human remains through the work of volunteer genealogists.

Hundreds protest ICE on Waltham Common

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/09/hundreds-protest-ice-on-waltham-common/

By Newsroom

January 9, 2026



Demonstrators gathered to protest ICE activity on Jan. 8, on Waltham Common. Photo by former Newton city councilor Bill Humphrey.

Hundreds of people from Waltham and surrounding communities converged on Waltham Common Thursday, Jan. 8, to protest what organizers call “lawless ICE violence” by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. Many people held signs referring to the fatal shooting of [Renee Nicole Good](#) by an ICE agent in Minneapolis on Jan. 6. Dozens of vehicles honked in support as they drove through the intersection of Main and Moody streets.

The demonstration was organized by advocacy groups Waltham Concerned Citizens, Indivisible Waltham and Fuerza Waltham. The organizers said they are calling on residents to join a stand-out on Waltham Common this Saturday, Jan. 10, 11 a.m. to noon, as part of a nationwide protest.

Prospect Hill Forge fires up the imagination

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/prospect-hill-forge-fires-up-the-imagination/

By Julie M. Cohen

January 9, 2026

Photos by David Greenfield

Carl West has a few goals for students who come to learn blacksmithing at Prospect Hill Forge: have fun, learn something, create an object that works, make that item beautiful and, most importantly, be sure to go home with fingers intact.

The last goal is particularly important considering that skillful hammering is one of a blacksmith's main activities.



On a recent weekday Patrick Stevens, a Concord ER doctor, and another student stood by coal-fired forges awaiting instruction from West, a Waltham resident who co-owns the Guinan Street space. The business is crammed full of tables and shelves holding handmade iron objects, including various hooks, tools and even a daffodil.

With an emphasis on safety and appropriate attire, including aprons, ear protectors, goggles and closed-toe shoes, West gave precise instructions on how to create the graceful curl of a hook out of a straight piece of metal.

“If you make a nice curve, happiness will ensue,” he told the students with a smile.

Natural teacher

Since opening the forge in Waltham in 2007, West has enjoyed watching students from different backgrounds grow and learn.

All kinds of people take his blacksmithing classes, he said, from zombie-apocalypse preppers, to medieval knight re-enactors, to those who are curious about the craft and want a creative outlet. Stevens, for example, said that repeatedly hitting metal on metal is an “outlet for stress.”

“They come from all over,” added West, who recalled teaching a 93-year-old and a 14-year-old at the same forge.

When he sees his students learning and using the techniques he has taught them, “my heart grows two sizes,” he said.

West didn’t always aspire to be a blacksmithing instructor. His friend and forge business partner Michael Bergman observed West’s innate teaching abilities when they were engaged in a very different activity: demonstrating Commedia dell’arte (an improvisational form of theater from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries) at MIT.

Bergman admired West’s ability to reach students and show them how to break down and perform different characters.

“Different people need different words” to learn and solve problems, West said.

Bergman also knew West was a talented blacksmith, inspiring him to suggest they open a school. West thought, “This sounds like a really good thing.”

He decided if it didn’t work out, he’d become a certified massage therapist.

Irons in the fire

West is a man of many interests – from blacksmithing, acting and dancing to sword fighting and calligraphy.

When students ask for his advice on how to become a better blacksmith, he suggests studying calligraphy and basic material science to learn what’s happening to the metal as it heats, cools and is manipulated.

“You need to understand your materials. That is vital,” he said.

West said blacksmithing echoes calligraphy, describing it as “drawing in space with a piece of iron.” Both art forms focus on edges, lines and beauty.

He first became interested in working with hammers, tongs and anvils when he started college in the 1970s. After reading the nonfiction book “The Village Blacksmith” by Aldren A. Watson during his sophomore year, he grew curious about the work.

That summer he got his own anvil, found a job with a Maine blacksmith and learned a variety of techniques.

“By the end of the summer ... it [felt] kind of like God just told me I was going to be a blacksmith,” West said.

But the road to opening his own smithy took twists and turns, including a stint in high tech, before he took the plunge at Bergman’s suggestion. Since then Prospect Hill Forge has been inspiring future blacksmiths for 18 years.

As for West’s own repertoire, he has created a plethora of objects from practical implements such as forks, spoons, knives, frying pans, cooking tripods, trivets and candlesticks to decorative fairy crowns, flowers, swords and armor. Asked what his favorite item is to make, West answered, “Something I’ve never made before.”

[Prospect Hill Forge](#) is located at 38 Guinan St., Waltham.

ADU adoption in Waltham off to a slow start

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/06/adu-adoption-in-waltham-off-to-a-slow-start/

By William Holder

January 7, 2026

Waltham residents considering building an accessory dwelling unit on their property join a modest but growing number of people taking advantage of new state laws.

These units can be built by homeowners, often as new freestanding buildings or through renovations to existing structures such as a garage. ADUs can provide housing for family members or be rented for income to homeowners.

Permitting of accessory dwelling units is off to a slow start following the 2024 passage of a state law designed to encourage their construction, according to the [Pioneer Institute](#).

In the first half of 2025, building officials in Massachusetts issued 550 permits for ADUs. By comparison, California has issued 30,000 permits in 2024. On a per capita basis, the rate of permitting in Massachusetts is less than a quarter of California's rate.

In Waltham, only five permits were issued in 2025, according to Chief Building Inspector Brian Bower.

Bower encourages individuals interested in an ADU to meet with him in his office, located in the government center on School Street. He said he will explain the process for obtaining a permit and help residents assess whether their property meets the city's requirements.

[The city's ADU ordinance](#), adopted in 2025, details the general requirements for an ADU, which "shall include a living area, kitchen, bathroom, and sleeping area separate from the principal dwelling unit."

A number of other requirements must be met as well. ADUs are permitted only as an accessory to a principal dwelling unit within single-family residential zoning districts. Zoning and other information is available on the [city's online map resource](#).

The minimum floor area of an ADU is 450 square feet and at least one parking place

must be provided unless the lot is located within half a mile of a transit station or bus stop. An ADU must be exclusively for residential use and may not be used for short-term rentals.

Bower noted that some plans for basement conversions run into difficulty due to the need for a separate entrance, though that can be through a common entry hall if the state requirements for safe egress are met.

The ordinance stipulates additional conditions, and a trip to the city Building Department is the best way for residents to ensure that an ADU is feasible on their property, Bower emphasizes. It's an important step before developing detailed construction plans required to obtain a building permit.

A good sport: Strong finish to Waltham woman's 'Jeopardy' run

By Julie M. Cohen

January 9, 2026

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/a-good-sport-strong-finish-to-waltham-womans-jeopardy-run/

If you're ever at Tempo on Moody Street for trivia night, you'll be up against stiff competition if resident Abigail Arnold – a veteran “Jeopardy!” contestant – joins the game.



A longtime Brandeis academic administrator, Arnold recently vied for the top prize in the Second Chance Tournament of the popular game show, after previously playing in 2024 (with the shows airing in 2025). Although she did not make it to the Tournament of Champions, she did win \$15,000 in prize money and came away with a sense of accomplishment.

It felt “amazing ... so redemptive,” to be asked to play again, she said. Sworn to secrecy about revealing the game results, Arnold could finally speak about her experience to The Waltham Times on Saturday, Jan. 2.

The Monday, Dec. 29, show was a highlight during her experience. The winning category that day was “Women of the Bible,” in which she got every answer right, including a Daily Double.

Although she won that game, she ultimately came in second during that week's finals and will not be moving on to the next round.

“I feel no regrets,” said Arnold, whose parents and college friend accompanied her on her return trip to Culver City, Calif., for the taping. They supported her by wearing shirts with her face on it.

“They loved it,” Arnold said of her mini fan club.

In addition to winning \$15,000, Arnold also bonded with her fellow contestants. “It's nice to meet friends from different places,” she said.

Her Jeopardy! journey

As for advice to other “Jeopardy!” hopefuls, Arnold said to “be a curious person, read a lot, [and] watch movies.”

She also cautioned that it may take time to be chosen as a contestant – if you’re chosen at all.

Arnold’s own journey to “Jeopardy!,” which first aired on March 30, 2025, took its own time. After trying out three times starting in 2021, she finally was asked to compete in December 2024. Her episode didn’t air until March 2025.

She was delighted to be asked to return in October 2025, although she said, “It was a little more tense” during the second-chance games. Fortunately, the “Jeopardy!” staff “make you feel so at ease the whole time you’re there.”

Arnold prepared in much the same way as she did in 2024, by using a homemade “buzzer” – a spring-loaded toilet paper holder – to make sure she was fast enough, [as the Times previously reported](#).

She also practiced how to make the most strategic bets if she got a chance to do so.

A fan of “Jeopardy!” since her college days, Arnold said she will still watch other contestants try their luck.

“I love the show,” she said.

‘Bridgerton’ fever inspires Regency-era dancing at Gore Place

By Julie M. Cohen

January 7, 2026



From left, Laura Rocklyn, currently of England; Helen Hutchinson of Watertown; and Sarah Toole of Waltham, attended the 2025 Regency Ball at the Gore Place mansion. Courtesy photo by Erik Workman.

At Gore Place’s upcoming workshops on popular dances, attendees won’t be learning the Charleston, Twist, Hustle or Macarena. Instead, they’ll be mastering the steps of Lord Byron’s Maggot and other Regency-period “longways” dances from England.

“I was noticing because of shows like ‘Bridgerton’ people were getting more interested in the period,” said Ruth Levin, a retired modern dance and ballet instructor.

After becoming interested in vintage dance forms (including those from the Regency period), Levin brought the idea to Gore Place officials to hold classes and a grand event. The estate, which is described on its website as a “museum, working farm, and community resource,” agreed and hosted its first Winter Regency Ball last year.

“The historical and political definition of the Regency is the period from 1811 to 1820 when George IV, Prince of Wales, governed the country as prince regent when his father George III was considered unfit to rule due to mental illness,” according to the BBC. “But culturally the term is applied to the years 1795-1837.”

This year Levin will lead two dance workshops at Gore Place on Jan. 10 and Jan. 24, ahead of the Winter Regency Ball in the estate’s grand hall on Feb. 7. The facility also will sponsor a discussion about fashion of the era on Jan. 18. Leah Kotok, programs manager at Gore Place, said the historic home has seen increased interest and participation.

“There is a noticeable uptick in younger participants ... and I think it is because of ‘Bridgerton’ and recent [Jane] Austen adaptations,” she said.

“Bridgerton,” a book series written by Julia Quinn that was made into a Netflix TV show, is set in a romanticized, brightly colored version of the era. By a lucky coincidence the latest season of the show debuts on Jan. 29, just before Gore Place’s ball.

Unsurprisingly, the books and show feature many grand galas, which at the time were “basically marriage markets,” said Levin. “You can tell a lot from dancing with somebody.”

Longways, or English country dances, feature groups performing in two long lines across from each other. Participants weave in and out, and eventually everyone gets a chance to interact on the dance floor. During the period, people would be separated by sex, but Levin said at the Gore ball, attendees can be in whichever line they prefer.

In addition to teaching Lord Byron’s Maggot, Levin will instruct dancers how to perform Haste to the Wedding, Dover Pier, Money in Both Pockets and Well Hall.

Trip back in time

Kotok said attendees treat the ball “almost like living history.” Live music will be performed by the band Spare Parts, adding to the authentic feel of the event.

At last year’s ball, many people wore period-style clothing, which will be discussed in detail during the Jan. 18 Regency Fashion Talk.

Some participants commission bespoke outfits created by skilled modern

seamstresses. Others go online to find stylish Regency-style garments, including lace-up boots.

Empire waist dresses, where the waist seam is sewn below the bust, were the height of fashion at the time for women.

“It’s basically like wearing a nightgown,” said Levin. “I think the men [attending the Gore event] have it harder.” Regency fashion for men included a tailcoat, waistcoat, shirt, trousers, neckcloth, hat, shoes/boots and stockings, not to mention accessories.

The fashion talk will feature a person modeling replica clothing because actual pieces from the period are fragile. They will also demonstrate the order in which attendees donned clothing for a ball.

Details

The Regency Dance Workshops take place on Jan. 10 and Jan. 24, both from 2 to 4 p.m. You do not have to attend the workshops in order to attend the ball.

The Regency Fashion Talk takes place on Jan. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The Winter Regency Ball takes place on Feb. 7 from 7 to 10 p.m.; rain date on Feb. 8 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Workshop general admission is \$25. Ball plus one workshop is \$85. Ball plus two workshops is \$95.

Gore Place is located at 52 Gore St.

Waltham's Pat Murphy honored at New England Patriots game

By Andrew Law

January 9, 2026

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/walthams-pat-murphy-honored-at-new-england-patriots-game/

Pat Murphy poses with other 2025 Difference Makers of the Week awardees, as well as New England Patriots Chairman and CEO Bob Kraft. Courtesy of New England Patriots.



At Gillette Stadium, last Sunday was a big day for both the New England Patriots and Waltham resident Pat Murphy. The Patriots completed a highly successful regular season, and the team recognized Murphy as a [2025 Difference Maker of the Week](#) for her [longtime volunteer work](#).

Murphy serves on the board at the Community Day Center of Waltham, which provides day shelter and support to homeless adults. She plays a key role in addressing their individual needs by facilitating donations from the local community.

“The Patriots Foundation put together an incredible celebration for the Difference Maker of the Week winners, from pregame time in the Sports Illustrated Pavilion to watching the Patriots warm up on the field, capped off by a group photo with [Patriots CEO Robert] Kraft and my fellow honorees,” said Murphy. “As a lifelong Patriots fan, I was honored to be part of such a special experience.”

The New England Patriots Foundation also [awarded \\$10,000 to The Community Day Center of Waltham](#) in Murphy's honor.

By game's end, the Patriots added a win to the day's celebrations.

Waltham-based nonprofit is fundraising for medical clinic in Nigeria

By Steve Milmore

January 8, 2026

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/waltham-based-nonprofit-is-fundraising-for-medical-clinic-in-nigeria/

The Waltham nonprofit From This Rock is hosting a fundraising dinner at Sacred Heart Parish's Parish Hall, 311 River St., on Saturday, Jan. 24, for its newest project: establishing a medical clinic in Nkerefi, a city in Enugu State, Nigeria.



Guests are invited to enjoy an evening of African entertainment, authentic cuisine, a cash bar and the chance to win raffle items. Following the 4 p.m. Mass, the From This Rock board will serve up Afrobeats food and Nigerian treats from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased after [Sunday Masses](#) and [online](#).

From This Rock was founded in 2024 after the Rev. Gabriel Chukwu returned to Sacred Heart as priest-in-residence from a visit to his home country of Nigeria. Its focus is on humanitarian aid for communities in need, such as access to clean water, medical facilities, and supplies for proper healthcare.

Waltham has supported its funding efforts in the past. From This Rock this past April completed its first goal of building a freshwater well in Nkerefi, thanks in large part to the generosity of the Waltham community. Today a solar-powered well provides potable water, renewable energy and a gathering place for many villages and towns.

This month's fundraising event will kick-start plans for the medical clinic in Nkerefi, working in collaboration with existing clinicians and mission volunteers.

From hissy to huggy, a Cat Connection success story

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/06/from-hissy-to-huggy-a-cat-connection-success-story/

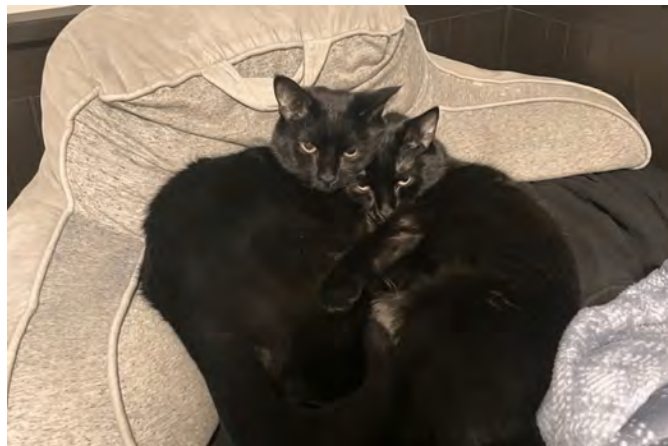
By THE CAT CONNECTION

January 7, 2026

We are over the moon to share a heartwarming update on two of our beloved boys, Tempeh and Fluffy.

Found separately as strays, these two didn't start their journey with much faith in humans. When they first arrived, they were the definition of "spicy" — hissy, growly and deeply unsure of the world.

But as we often see at The Cat Connection, a little time and a lot of love change everything.



Fluffy (now Odin) surprised everyone by becoming a world-class snuggler from minute one in his forever home, sleeping curled up with his adopter on the very first night. Tempeh (now Loki) took the scenic route, needing a bit more time to realize he was safe. Now Loki's days of hiding are officially over. He actively asks to be petted and loves nothing more than hanging out with his BFF Odin and his favorite human.

Their adopter says it best: "I'm the lucky one. They have healed my heart. When I lost my Khufu over the summer I was devastated, but these two have made my house a home again. It is so rewarding to watch a shy cat finally decide to trust you."

Meet Squash and Gravy

If Loki and Odin's story touched your heart, we have the perfect opportunity for you to reap those same rewards. We are looking for a special home for Squash and Gravy, two scrumptious sisters who are ready to fill your life with love.

At 18-months-old, this stunning black cat duo has undergone an incredible transformation. Like Loki and Odin, they arrived shy and undersocialized. But through the patience of a dedicated foster family, they have started their search for loving human companions.

Gravy is a total “people-cat” in the making. She has become her foster family’s devoted shadow, sleeping the foot of the bed and offering gentle hand licks if she feels she isn’t getting quite enough attention.



Squash took a little longer to find her courage, but she is now a total sweetheart. She is a certified “purr machine” who will actively seek you out for head scratches and cuddles.

These sisters will thrive in a calm, predictable environment with no other pets and no children.

Squash and Gravy are a bonded pair and must be adopted together. They are the ultimate reward for a patient adopter who understands that the best things in life are worth waiting for.

Ready to adopt? If you have a quiet home and a heart ready for two gentle souls, Squash and Gravy are waiting for you.

[THE CAT CONNECTION](#)

The Cat Connection is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit no-kill organization whose primary mission is to rescue abandoned, abused, unwanted, stray, neglected, and injured cats, and to facilitate their adoption into responsible permanent homes. This includes special needs cats and kittens with conditions that will require a specialized approach to adoption.

School Committee schedules public hearing to discuss contested emotional support dog policy



By Isabella Lapriore

January 9, 2026

The Waltham school committee at its meeting on Jan. 7 scheduled a public hearing to gather input from members of the Waltham Public Schools community regarding a [contested district emotional support dog policy](#).

Committee members Edmund Tarallo, Debbie Coleman and James Zanghi voted to approve the proposed policy, while newly elected members Sabrina DeJoannis and Tammy Wong- Bigelow abstained.

Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy said the new members should be given more time to review information and past discussions about the issue before voting.

The committee unanimously approved a motion made by DeJoannis to schedule a public hearing to allow the WPS community to provide input on the existing policy, which prohibits teachers from serving as emotional support dog handlers.

According to Tarallo, the committee's discussion of the issue spanned three meetings, which allowed time for the community to give its input.

"It's time to either do it or move on," Tarallo said.

[At the committee's last two meetings](#), Julia Norman, a MacArthur Elementary School digital learning teacher, expressed concern about the prohibition on behalf of the school's staff.

The committee decided to keep the policy on its agenda, though Tarallo made a motion to file the proposal and Coleman made a motion to table the issue.

Additionally the School Committee

Accepted four donations: \$3,200 to the WHS class of 2026 from Kelly L. Fitzpatrick, \$1,000 to the WHS class of 2026 from an anonymous donor, six 3D printers to McDevitt Middle School's CTE program from Brandeis University and \$30,000 to fund a \$2,000 WHS senior student scholarship in memory of Charles Williams

from the retired municipal employees of Waltham.

Unanimously approved the election of Marisa Mendonsa as committee clerk and Debbie Coleman as committee vice chairperson.

Heard WHS sports and performing arts updates from a student council member.

Unanimously approved the adoption of the 2026 Waltham school committee policy manual.

Fee increases set for Waltham Recreation rentals and programs

By Cyd Abnet

January 9, 2026

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/fee-increases-set-for-waltham-recreation-rentals-and-programs/

The Parks-Recreation Board during its meeting on Wednesday voted to increase fees for several different amenity rentals and programs.

The fee for a two-hour rental of an outdoor facility or an athletic field will increase from \$180 to \$185. For rental of pickleball courts, the rental time will increase from 60 minutes to 90 minutes. Additionally, the fees for nonresident rental will increase from \$25 to \$30 for outdoor courts and from \$40 to \$45 for indoor courts. Pavilion rental fees for nonresidents will increase from \$95 to \$100, and 50-minute rental fees for Veterans Memorial Rink will increase from \$210 to \$220 for nonprofit groups and from \$230 to \$240 for private groups.

Summer program rates will increase by \$5, which parks and recreation director Kim Hebert said still keeps Waltham's program costs well below those of surrounding towns.

In additional business:,

- Vice President Brian Wilder of the [Waltham Youth Basketball Association](#) reported steady numbers and a successful season in 2025. Wilder said the Saturday coaching partnership between the Waltham High School Varsity Basketball team and the in-town youth team will continue. Scholarships are offered for kids who need them.
- President Dennis Keohane of the [Prospect Hill Ski Team](#) said there was more involvement from Waltham families this season than in years past, as well as nearly 100 racers on the team. Keohane emphasized that the team isn't trying to create elite ski racers. The goal is to teach members how to race safely and make skiing a lifelong activity.
- Former high school athletic director Steve Laforest talked about the city's Lou Tompkins All Star Baseball League, which provides low-cost summer baseball opportunities for kids who have aged out of the Little League Baseball program. Two teams from the program made the playoffs this summer and program

participants helped to coach and umpire Little League Baseball games.

- ♦ [Flight Performance Gym and Fitness](#) proposed a 5K road race that would start at its business at 13 Wall St. The plan is for the race to take place in early April. The gym wanted to use nearby McKenna Playground as a gathering space for the race, which would also include a business exhibition and porta-potties. Due to concerns about traffic flow and parking in the area, the board asked to change the race location to 411 Waverly Oaks Road, which has been a safe and successful 5K starting spot for other races in the city.

Zoning board approves indoor basketball facility, housing development hearing delayed

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/06/zoning-board-approves-indoor-basketball-facility-housing-development-hearing-delayed/

By Artie Kronenfeld

January 7, 2026

Waltham could score new indoor basketball facilities after a Tuesday Zoning Board of Appeals decision in favor of a planned Clematis Avenue building renovation.

The ZBA at its Jan. 6 meeting agreed to let the company Tico Inc. convert the current gymnastics space at 110–1 Clematis Ave. into a “hoops center” for basketball training and practice. The property, part of the Tico Industrial Park, is a warehouse-style building where a tenant previously running the gymnastics space moved to a larger space in the same building.

Tico’s lawyer, Philip McCourt, told the board that the building’s owners do not anticipate an increase in traffic to the area, because the basketball facility will primarily be used for limited- registration classes. He added that it will not be used for basketball games.

One of the property’s neighbors spoke against the new basketball gym, saying that the current facilities are already disruptive in ways the change in use will not fix. She said the gymnastics facility leaves its back door open, and as a direct abutter to the back of the property, she and her husband are bothered by the noise. She also raised concerns about emergency access to the building, saying access to the back of the gym was blocked by storage containers.

The board voted to require the basketball facilities to keep the back door closed except in case of emergency as a condition of its permit.

455 Totten Pond hearing delayed

The ZBA was scheduled to hear at its Tuesday meeting updates to a special permit request for a large residential development at 455 Totten Pond Road.

The Davis Cos. first came before city officials [in March](#) with its plans to build The Residences on Winter using the state’s Chapter 40B law. This statute allows special permits for residential buildings in nonresidential areas if they provide a sufficient amount of affordable housing.

The development team [received permission](#) from the board at its last meeting to begin drafting final language for a special permit with the city's Law Department. The team was scheduled to update the board on its progress with the city on Jan. 6.

However, because ZBA chair John Sergi, who had sat in on all previous hearings for 455 Totten Pond Road, was absent, the board agreed to delay the next stage of the hearings until its meeting on Jan. 27.

Middlesex Jail vending machine dispenses 205 overdose- reversal kits in first year

By Newsroom

January 5, 2026

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/04/middlesex-jail-vending-machine-dispenses-205-overdose-reversal-kits-in-first-year/

The Middlesex Sheriff's Office reports that a naloxone vending machine at the Middlesex Jail & House of Correction has been accessed 205 times in its first year, a milestone officials say reflects growing community use of the overdose-reversal medication.



Installed in December 2024, the machine at the jail's Visitor Center provides free naloxone kits, each containing two doses of the opioid overdose-reversal drug, to visitors and staff. The MSO has equipped staff with naloxone for on-duty emergencies since 2016, part of a broader public health approach to substance use in the facility.

“Each of the 205 kits shared with our community represents a potential life saved,” Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian said in a statement. “The continued use of the naloxone vending machine shows we are removing unnecessary barriers to this critical resource.”


More than 40% of people incarcerated at the Middlesex Jail & House of Correction have a diagnosed substance use disorder, according to the sheriff's office. The naloxone vending machine extends the MSO's Medication Assisted Treatment And Directed Opioid Recovery program, as well as the Families in Treatment program, both of which focus on treatment, recovery and support for individuals with addiction and their families.

Kits can be obtained anonymously, and the machine displays graphics that instruct users on how to administer naloxone in the event of a suspected overdose. Users may also complete a brief voluntary survey on age, race and ZIP code to help the MSO shape future treatment, prevention and outreach efforts.

Waltham man pleads guilty, sentenced to 14 years for 2020 assaults

Isabella Lapriore, Artie Kronenfeld

January 7,

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/06/waltham-man-pleads-guilty-sentenced-to-14-years-for-2020-assaults/
2026

By [Isabella Lapriore](#) & [Artie Kronenfeld](#)

Clauvens Janvier, 29, of Waltham, on Monday pleaded guilty to numerous assault-related charges from a string of random assaults he carried out in 2020 in which Janvier struck 10 men, including an on-duty letter carrier, from behind with a weapon. He was sentenced to 14 years at the Souza Baranowski Correctional Center in Lancaster.

Janvier pleaded guilty to five counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, three counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon causing serious bodily injury, three counts of assault and battery, and carrying a dangerous weapon.

Middlesex Superior Court Judge C. William Barrett sentenced Janvier to 14 years in prison on the recommendations of a plea agreement between Janvier and the prosecution.

Janvier has already served five years and 26 days of his sentence while awaiting sentencing.

Waltham police arrested Janvier, a 2015 Waltham High School graduate, on Dec. 11, 2020, on charges related to the [string of assaults](#) that happened between Nov. 10 and Nov. 27 of that year across the city.

Barrett initially expressed reluctance to grant the proposed sentence, saying that if Janvier had been found guilty by a jury, he would not have accepted such a short sentence because of the impact the assaults had on the Waltham community.

“These acts were brazen and reckless and malicious and quite frankly had a whole community walking on pins and needles,” Barrett said.

ndings from a November 2025 jury trial on 10 charges connected to one of the assaults. The jury found him guilty of eight of those charges: two counts of carrying a firearm without a license, two counts of carrying a loaded firearm without a license, felony possession of a firearm, assault with a dangerous weapon, possession of ammunition without a firearm identification card and discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a building.

Janvier will have to complete three years probation after he's released. He will be barred from contacting the victims of the assaults and possessing firearms.

He was also ordered to undergo mental health evaluation and treatment.

Barrett noted that if Janvier is again found in possession of an unauthorized firearm, he may face a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years [under the federal Armed Career Criminal Act](#).


Prosecution lawyer Jacob McCrindle said he was seeking the prosecution's original pretrial recommendation of 14 years, instead of the maximum sentence of 15 years, because of Janvier's team's cooperation to reach a deal and Janvier's willingness to waive his right to appeal. McCrindle said his team had not been able to find victims willing to give statements on the case, despite attempts to reach the victims, which also influenced the prosecution's sentencing recommendation.

The prosecution agreed not to prosecute three additional charges against Janvier — of assault and battery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and mayhem — that were connected to incidents, noting that they are covered by other charges.

Barrett added that when Janvier gets out of prison at the age of 38, he will still have a lot of life ahead of him and wished him luck in working to build a better, more productive future.

“These were horrendous things that were done, and you're paying a price for it,” Barrett said. “It doesn't mean you can't turn a page.”

Charges in July shooting case moved to Superior Court following grand jury indictment

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/charges-in-july-shooting-case-moved-to-superior-court-following-grand-jury-indictment/

By Isabella Lapriore

January 9, 2026

Following indictment by a Middlesex Superior Court grand jury on charges related to a July shooting, Waltham District Court Judge Ellen M. Caulo disposed all charges in a district court case against Justo Murillo Sanchez, 38, of 83 Lexington St., Waltham, at a probable cause hearing on Jan. 6.

Murillo Sanchez was indicted on Dec. 16 on two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery with a firearm, two counts of carrying a firearm without a license, two counts of carrying a loaded firearm without a license, felony possession of a firearm and discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a building. He pleaded not guilty on these charges at an arraignment at Middlesex Superior Court in Woburn on Dec. 30.

Charges in a case against Gaby Sandoval-Matute, a codefendant in the district court case against Murillo Sanchez, remain pending. She is scheduled to appear at Waltham District Court for a pretrial hearing on Jan. 28.

Middlesex Superior Court Judge Daniel Flaherty ordered Murillo Sanchez to remain held without bail on dangerousness at the Middlesex Jail in Billerica at his arraignment on Dec. 30.

He is scheduled to appear for a dangerousness hearing on Jan. 16.

All information for this story was gathered from court proceedings and official court documents at Waltham District Court and case information from masscourts.org.

District court case dismissed for Waltham man held in ICE custody in Louisiana

By Isabella Lapriore

January 9, 2026

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/district-court-case-dismissed-for-waltham-man-held-in-ice-custody-in-louisiana/

Waltham District Court Judge Ellen M. Caulo dismissed four charges due to a lack of prosecution in a case against Yuriy Medvedev, 45, of 120 Willow St., Waltham, at a hearing on Jan. 7.

At an arraignment on Mar. 3, 2025, Medvedev pleaded not guilty to two counts of threat to commit a crime and two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

A witness and victim in the case who appeared to testify on behalf of the prosecution was advised that his testimony could potentially bring criminal charges upon himself, and he ultimately waived his right to do so.

According to an Oct. 6 motion written by Medvedev's lawyer, Alexander Shapoval, Medvedev was arrested by ICE in late March, 2025.

Medvedev's appearance, scheduled for a jury trial, was waived as he is currently held in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody at the Winn Correctional Center in Winnfield, La.

Medvedev, a citizen of Kazakhstan, remains held in Louisiana awaiting deportation.

Additional court actions

Caulo rescheduled a probable cause hearing for Stephen McDonough, 60, of 251 Ridge Lane, Waltham on Jan. 5. At an arraignment on Sept. 26, McDonough pleaded not guilty to [charges of possession of child pornography](#) and distributing material of a child in a sexual act. He is scheduled to appear at Waltham District Court on Feb. 17.

Middlesex Superior Court Judge Daniel Flaherty issued an arrest warrant for Joseph Keane Jr., 36, homeless, of Waltham after he failed to appear for an arraignment on Jan. 6 at Middlesex Superior Court in Woburn. Keane was indicted by a Superior Court grand jury on Dec. 11 on multiple drug and weapons charges, including trafficking more than 100 grams of methamphetamine but less than 200 grams. Keane has a pending Waltham District Court case with charges from the [same incident addressed](#)

[by the indictment](#). A previous warrant was issued by Caulo after he failed to appear for a motion hearing on Jan. 2.

Caulo also scheduled a jury compliance and election hearing for Brandon D. Stinson, 41, of 305 Winter St., Waltham, at a pretrial hearing on Jan. 7. Stinson pleaded not guilty to possession of child pornography at an arraignment on Nov. 18. He is scheduled to appear at Waltham District Court on Mar. 3.

All information for this story was gathered from court proceedings and official court documents at Waltham District Court and case information from masscourts.org.

Public Safety Report: Woman arrested after robbing a man on first date

By Cyd Abnet

January 5, 2026

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/04/public-safety-report-woman-arrested-after-robbing-a-man-on-first-date/

A woman arrested at a Waltham hotel has been charged with armed robbery and assault with a dangerous weapon. On Dec. 26 at 1:21 a.m., police responded to the Embassy Suites Hotel at 550 Winter St. in response to a call from Victoria Webster, 31, of Jamaica Plain who said a man was preventing her from leaving the hotel. They had been on a first date earlier that night and had gone to the hotel afterward.

According to the police report, before driving Webster home, the man went to the bathroom. When he emerged, he noticed his \$700 chain was gone and a \$100 bill was missing from his wallet. When he confronted Webster about it, she produced the \$100 bill from her bra but denied stealing the chain. When pressed further, Webster pulled out a knife and called the police.

Officers reported that they decided to arrest her after assessing the situation and, when being arrested, Webster asked, “If I give him back his chain will you not arrest me?” Officers reported locating the chain on Webster during the booking process.

A summary of additional police and fire activity from Dec. 23 to Dec. 29 is as follows:

On Dec. 23 at 7:20 a.m., Engine 4 of the Waltham Fire Department responded to the Starbucks at 12 Market Place Drive. A parked tanker truck that had been in the parking lot for several days had a large oil spot underneath. The crew dried the spill and coordinated with the Police Department to tow the vehicle.

On Dec. 24 at 8:38 a.m., police responded to reports of a car break-in on School Street. The reporting party’s car had been unlocked overnight. The center console had been rummaged through and \$460 in cash was missing from the car. Investigation into the break-in is ongoing.

On Dec. 24 at 2:47 p.m., police responded to a residence on Adams Street where someone reported being the target of a cryptocurrency scam. The scam began in June 2024 when the alleged victim was looking for a website to use to invest money and, after making an initial investment of \$48,000, eventually ended up investing a total of \$251,000. The individual became suspicious and realized it was a scam after receiving

no investment statements from the website and receiving a WhatsApp message following an attempt to call customer service. The scam was reported to the FBI in November 2024. The delay in reporting it to the Waltham Police Department was due to the fact that the reporting party was out of the country.

On Dec. 25 at 11:40 a.m., police responded to Clocktower Drive where an individual reported being concerned about an Apple AirTag found in the glovebox of a car recently purchased from a local dealership. The dealership confirmed that the AirTag had been placed there by the previous owner's daughter.

On Dec. 27 at 2:20 a.m., police responded to reports of a traffic accident on Weston Street. A car traveling east on Weston Street lost control due to the snow and struck a utility pole. The driver was transported to a local hospital for leg pain and cited for speeding. The utility pole was not damaged.

On Dec. 27 at 3:58 p.m., police responded to a residence at Trapelo Road where a black Jeep had pulled into the reporting party's driveway. A man emerged and knocked on the party's door, stating that he was from a utility company. When the reporting party asked the man to show identification, he got into his Jeep and drove away. Police checked the area and were unable to locate the motor vehicle.

On Dec. 27 at 5:39 p.m., police responded to a Main Street residence after receiving a call about a package that had been tampered with. The package was delivered to a UPS in-store mailbox and was supposed to contain an iPad. There was no iPad in the box, and the box had been opened. The reporting party attempted to follow up with the store, but it was closed. This is an ongoing investigation.

On Dec. 29 at 10:29 p.m., police responded to reports of a car break-in on Pond Street. The reporting party stated that she was missing a speaker worth \$260 and some loose change that she kept in her driver's-side door. She could not remember whether the car was locked. This is an ongoing investigation.

All information was obtained from spokespeople with the Waltham Police and Fire departments, [the publicly available police blotter](#) and police reports available at Waltham District Court.

Waltham man held without bail on assault to murder charge for allegedly stabbing girlfriend

 [walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/waltham-man-held-without-bail-on-assault-to-murder-charge-for-allegedly-stabbing-girlfriend/](https://www.walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/waltham-man-held-without-bail-on-assault-to-murder-charge-for-allegedly-stabbing-girlfriend/)

By Isabella Lapriore

January 9, 2026

At a Jan. 7 hearing Musasizi Ronald Muleme, 38, of 39 Charlesbank Way, Waltham, was ordered by Waltham District Court Judge Ellen M. Caulo to remain held without bail at Middlesex Jail in Billerica on dangerousness.

At an arraignment on Dec. 29 Muleme pleaded not guilty to charges of armed assault to murder, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and assault and battery on a family or household member.

Footage from a home security camera captured what began as a verbal altercation between Muleme and his girlfriend after a friend's birthday celebration and then escalated to a physical altercation, according to the police report.

The police report also said footage showed both parties arguing, the victim throwing various objects at Muleme and another verbal altercation, followed by another physical altercation where Muleme retrieved a large chef's knife from the kitchen of the residence and approached the victim from behind, at which point both parties fell to the floor and he repeatedly stabbed her in the back.

Additionally, the police report said the defendant continued to stab the victim after the knife became stuck in her back and he used force to remove it. The prosecution alleged that the knife became stuck due to the force of the stabbing.

Waltham police responded to multiple calls from the victim stating that she was bleeding from the arms and back at 2:35 a.m. on Dec. 28. After responding and viewing video footage of the stabbing, officers located Muleme near his residence and arrested him.

According to the police report, while being arrested, Muleme told officers that his girlfriend had had an accident.

Both Muleme and the victim were transported to hospitals to receive medical attention.

At the time of his arrest, Muleme was on probation for a charge of leaving the scene of property damage related to an incident in September 2024.

He is scheduled to appear via Zoom for a probable cause hearing on Feb. 6 and will be held on dangerousness without bail for up to 120 days until May 1.

All information for this story was gathered from court proceedings and official court documents at Waltham District Court and case information from [masscourts.org](https://www.masscourts.org).

William Wesley Durkee Jr., former city councilor and environmentalist, 1940–2026

January 6, 2026

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/06/william-wesley-durkee-jr-former-city-councilor-and-environmentalist-1940-2026/

William Wesley Durkee Jr., 85, of Waltham died at home surrounded by his family on Jan. 4, 2026.

He was born in Waltham Jan. 20, 1940, to William Wesley Durkee Sr. and Blanca Maria de la Vega-Bartleman. William was known as Bill or Duke to his friends. Duke attended Waltham High School (class of 1957) and served as a Walden



Pond lifeguard. While studying chemical engineering at Northeastern University (class of 1962), Duke was in the ROTC and joined the U.S. Army upon graduation. He was the first in his family to attend college.

He served in the US Army Signal Corps in Korea during the Vietnam era eventually gaining the rank of Captain. He reminisced about his time in Korea until the very end. After his military service, Duke received his MBA from Boston College (class of 1970) and was forever conflicted when his two schools played each other in the Beanpot hockey tournament.

Duke is predeceased in death by his mother, father, and sisters Bertha, Blanche (John), Margaret and Grace. He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Mary Anne (Mulhane) Durkee; siblings Elsa (John) Aviza and Donald Durkee; in-laws: John and Elizabeth Mulhane and Margaret and John Hallisey; children William Scot (Dorthe) Durkee, Sean Durkee, Kelly (Everett) Erwin and Brien Durkee; and five cherished grandchildren Lærke, William Louis, Cameron, William James, and Brielle. Duke is also survived by dearly loved nieces and nephews: Michelle, John H., Kate, Lisa, Leah, John B., Joel, Maia, John A., Darryl, Elsa, Andy, Annalia, Christian, Lorelei, John D. and numerous other relatives and friends. To Duke, family was everything.

Duke worked in the chemical industry for 50+ years and traveled extensively in the US

and internationally on business including a memorable trip to China in the early 1980's before the country opened up to outsiders and an invitation was required to visit, as well as the Middle East, and South America. He was an environmentalist with a love of the outdoors, including fishing, hiking, swimming and camping, and enjoyed teaching generations of the family and friends the joy of the outdoors. He was a proud BSA Scoutmaster of Troop 855 (Lewiston NY) and an Adirondack 46er. Additionally, he hiked the Grand Canyon at 69 and climbed Mount Washington with his brother at 76. He enjoyed all travel and lived for a time in Akron, OH, Lewiston, NY, Carrollton, TX, but his love was Waltham, MA. The City of Waltham Community Preservation Committee was his last place of work, for 8 years, as the CPC Manager until his retirement at age 80.

Additionally, Duke is a former Waltham city councilor and taught his children the ideals of selfless service and civic engagement. He actively participated in the Northeastern University Alumni, Opportunities for Inclusion, NE Chemical Association, Waltham Land Trust, Waltham Museum, Piety Corner Club, Adirondack 46ers, VFW 2152, Trustees of Reservations, Waltham Jaycees and never missed an Arts Council Concert on the Waltham Common.

He lit up the room when he entered it and could tell a heck of a story. He treated every person he met with the same dignity you would the CEO of a large company. He always said thank you. And, he was an astute listener. He knew that everyone has a story to tell, and what you could learn if you just listened to those stories. His legacy is all the people he helped and influenced to make this world a better place.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Opportunities for Inclusion, 56 Chestnut St, Waltham, MA 02453 or New Englanders Helping Our Veterans (NEHOV), 1515 Douglas Turnpike, Harrisville, RI 02830

Service Details

Date: 01/09/2026

Time: 03:00 pm

Location: 215 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham, Massachusetts

Officiant: Irish Wake

Funeral Home: Waltham American Legion Joseph F. Hill Post 156

Website: <https://brascofuneralhome.com/book-of-memories/5673815/Durkee-William/index.php>

Carol Aucoin Crain, 1938–2026, loving mother and grandmother

January 9, 2026

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/carol-aucoin-crain-1938-2026-loving-mother-and-grandmother/

Carol (Mulcahy) Aucoin Crain, of Waltham, passed away peacefully on Jan. 4, 2026, at Newton-Wellesley Hospital, surrounded by her loving family. She was 87.

Born in Newton, Massachusetts, she was the beloved daughter of the late John A. Mulcahy and Margaret A. Mulcahy (MacEachern). A lifelong resident of Waltham, Carol truly wrote her own obituary by the way she lived her life — kind, selfless, caring and generous to a fault.

She gave not from her abundance, but from her substance. Never judgmental, Carol loved everyone and everyone loved her.



Carol cherished her many friends from Alcoholics Anonymous and proudly marked Mar. of 1987 as the beginning of her journey as a friend of Bill W. With humility and grace, she led many to AA and was deeply grateful for the life it helped her build.

She loved shopping and was the ultimate gift giver, always finding joy in giving to others. Carol possessed a strong work ethic and worked for many years as a waitress and hostess at Chateau Restaurant and later for Richard LeClair, Esq. Above all, her most important and cherished role was that of a mother. A true lioness, she fiercely nurtured and protected her family while teaching them to be respectful, productive members of society.

Despite life's adversities, Carol always demonstrated courage, strength and perseverance. She remained grateful for whatever life brought her way and often shared her favorite quote: "I'm so lucky — I have everything I want." Carol always saw the good in every situation and in everyone she met.

She was predeceased by her husbands, Joseph Aucoin and Stephen Crain.

Carol leaves behind her loving children, Billy Aucoin and his wife Tonia, Donnie Aucoin and his wife Maia, and Allison Doucette and her husband Steve; her grandchildren Audrey Aucoin, Felicia McCarthy (Jeff), Leah Aucoin (Demetri), Kelsey Perone (Mike), Courtney Mula-Doucette (Scott), Stevie Doucette (Jill), Hailie Doucette (Jonny) and Cassidi Doucette (Patrick); nine great-grandchildren; and her loving “bonus” children, Angela C. McCarthy, Stephen M. Crain II and Jennifer M. DeVito, all of whom brought her immense joy.

At the family’s request, funeral services will be held privately.

Carol’s celebration of life was held on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sons of Italy (Lower Level), located at 99 Cedar Street, Waltham, MA.

Ronald Ricci, 1959–2026, was a ‘devoted husband, loving father and cherished friend’

[walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/ronald-ricci-1959-2026-was-a-devoted-husband-loving-father-and-cherished-friend/](https://www.walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/ronald-ricci-1959-2026-was-a-devoted-husband-loving-father-and-cherished-friend/)

January 9, 2026

Ronald Edward Ricci, of Waltham and Yarmouth, MA, passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by his family on Jan. 6, 2026, after a courageous battle with a glioblastoma brain tumor. He was 66.

Ronald was born on Feb. 6, 1959 in Brighton, MA. He was the beloved son of the late Jesse and Audrey Ricci. He was raised and lived in Waltham his entire life and he spent summers at his family’s Cape house in Yarmouth.

Ronald grew up on his family’s farm “Ricci Farm,” where he learned a strong work ethic from a young age.

Ronald is a graduate of Waltham Vocational School class of 1977 where he learned the auto body trade. He had a love for cars, especially Mercedes and Cadillacs. Following high school, Ronald worked at Foreign Motors West and owned his first Mercedes before the age of 20. He knew from a young age he wanted to own and operate his own business. He became one of the youngest Matco Tool dealers in New England buying his own franchise and territory. Furthering his ambitions he developed, owned, and operated New England Executive Coach, Inc. for over 30 years. Building his business he worked seven days a week, serving corporate clients coast to coast. If his long work hours were not challenging enough he got his real estate license in which he enjoyed doing commercial real estate in his limited spare time.



Ronald was a devoted husband, loving father and cherished friend. Over the years, Ronald was involved in many local civic and charitable organizations. He was instrumental in building the handicap playground at The Northeast Elementary School. He was involved in GWARC, volunteering his time and limousines for their special

prom nights. He was the past president of the Waltham Lions Club the year the organization held their 25th anniversary and gala. He used to enjoy ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Christmas time in front of the former Grover Cronin's with his fellow lions club members.

In his spare time Ron's happy place was spending time at his summer home in Yarmouth. He loved a good game of golf, a lobster roll and days spent with his family at the beach.

Among his favorite spots to hang out were Brax Landing Restaurant for their famous lobster rolls, The Skipper Restaurant and the Tiki Bar at Blue Waters Hotel.

Ron is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Tricia Ricci; his daughters Alyssa Ricci of Waltham and Jill D'Alfonso (Nick) of Medford; his siblings Jimi (Charlene) Ricci of Ossipee,

N.H. and Cheryl (Pat) O'Reilly of Laconia N.H; his mother in-law Helen A. Gisbourne of Waltham, and the late Arthur Gisbourne. In addition Ron leaves many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor and remember Ronald's life by gathering for a wake which will be held on Sunday, Jan. 11, 2026 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Brasco & Sons Memorial Funeral Home, 773 Moody Street, Waltham, MA. A funeral mass will be celebrated on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted Church at 920 Trapelo Road in Waltham, MA. Family and friends are invited to Brasco Funeral Home at 9 a.m. prior to the 10:30 a.m. mass. Interment will follow in the family lot at Newton Cemetery.

Gertrude Sullivan, 1927–2026, former nurse at Waltham Hospital

By Newsroom

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/gertrude-sullivan-1927-2026-former-nurse-at-waltham-hospital/

Gertrude E. (Herrmann) Sullivan died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026 in Meadow Green Nursing and Rehabilitation Center with her family at her side. She was 98.

Gertrude (also known as Gert, Gertie, and Trudy) was born Sept. 6, 1927 in Everett, MA to German immigrants Frances (Koppelkamm) and Henry Herrmann. She grew up in Allston, the eldest of four, attended St. Anthony's School and won a scholarship to Mount Saint Joseph's Academy, graduating in 1945. Her excellent grades could have led her to college, but she chose to work at Shawmut Bank to help her family. Later in her life, she returned to school to study nursing and was an LPN at Waltham Hospital.



On Sept. 8, 1951, Gert joined the Sullivan clan when she married Larry and moved to Brighton. A few years later, they moved their growing family to the Waltham suburbs, where they were 'pioneers' of the new Willow Grove development on Potter Rd. They raised their seven children in that typical 50's Kool-Aid gang neighborhood, with Lowell Field and Bright School just a block away. She and Dottie Mula were the two remaining 'originals' in recent years, with several of the next generation still in the neighborhood. She loved living on the corner where the school bus stops, so she could watch the antics of the children who live there now.

Family was first, and Gert made sure hers got plenty of time with cousins. She grew up without any cousins, so she and Larry made sure the Sullivans, Hartlings, and Dwyers remained close. When grandchildren came along, Grandma was there for them (and their moms). Caring for her loved ones in their final days was also part of who she was. For her mother at her home in

Allston and at a care facility, and later for her father, for brother-in-law Richard, and for Larry in the family home, she was there to give comfort on their final journeys.

Gert was an accomplished seamstress and knitter, a creative cook who could stretch a Sunday roast into several 'leftovers' meals and easily mastered new skills in the adult education classes she took over the years, including millinery, cake decorating, woodworking, Women on Wheels and line dancing. She volunteered at the Massachusetts LPN association and Meals on Wheels. She was a communicant at St. Jude's Church from its beginning, and a proponent of the school that her three youngest daughters attended.

She also volunteered as a Eucharistic Minister, bringing communion to residents of Marist Hill, and escorting those who were able across the street to Sacred Heart Church. Travel was a big part of their life in retirement, with trips to Europe, around the US, and to time shares in Florida, Virginia and Aruba. When travel was no longer possible adventures with Rick Steves took her around the world.

She was the beloved wife of the late Lawrence P. Sullivan (Feb. 9, 2011).

She leaves her seven children, Loretta F. DeKay (Lloyd) of White Salmon, Washington, Linda M. Garrity (late Michael) of Jamaica Plain, Mark R. Sullivan of Waltham, Anne T. Sullivan (Don Winans) of Baltimore, Maryland, Mary P. Stern (Matthew) of Millburn, New Jersey, Janet E. Richards (David) of Tijeras, New Mexico and Carol A. Smith (late Paul) of Ipswich; her grandchildren, Keara Dekay (Josh Latham), Alina McKevitt (Conor), Kevin Garrity (Heather), Patrick Garrity, Ryan Garrity (Becky) the late Liam Sullivan, Layla Sullivan (Brian Murphy), Sydney Stern, Paul Richards, Faye Spruance (Dylan), Melissa Crowley (deceased), Erin Crowley (Michael Galvin), Bobby Crowley and Alicia Smith; her great- grandchildren Dylan, Maisie, Riley, Dana, Liam, Sloane and Donal; her siblings, William Herrmann (late Elaine) of Watertown and the late Elsie J. Hartling (late Neil) and Mary Dwyer (late Daniel). She is also survived by her sister-in-law Marilyn Sullivan (age 101) and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

The family is so grateful for the love and attention from her caregivers Siobhan Underhill and Veronica McDonough, without whom she could not have stayed

in her home as long as she did. After moving to Meadow Green Rehab and Skilled Nursing Center in June 2024, she received excellent care from her favorites, especially Lorna, Chris, David, Ezra, and Salma.

Family and friends honored and remembered Gertrude's life by gathering for an evening wake at The Joyce Funeral Home, 245 Main Street (Rte. 20), Waltham on Thursday, Jan. 8 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., and will gather again at 9 a.m. on Friday morning before leaving in procession to St. Jude's Church, 147 Main Street, Waltham, where her funeral mass was celebrated at 10 a.m. Burial followed in Saint Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury.

James Moran, 1937–2026, Mass. Army National Guard veteran and lifelong Waltham resident

 walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/james-moran-1937-2026-mass-army-national-guard-veteran-and-lifelong-waltham-resident/

James M. “Mac” Moran, of Waltham, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026 at MaineHealth Stephens Hospital in Norway, Maine. He was 89.

Mac was born in Framingham, a son of the late James and Mary (Barrett) Moran and was raised in Waltham. He was a 1956 graduate of Waltham High School.

He had a long military career beginning after high school by joining the Massachusetts Army National Guard. He served during the Korean War, the Vietnam War and Desert Storm where his unit spent months in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and in Iraq.



Mac also attended Northeastern University and worked for years as a sales rep for Industrial Aluminum Company and in later years worked for the United States Postal Service before retiring in 2003.

On Nov. 25, 1961, Mac married the love of his life, Kathleen Varley, in Saint Charles Borromeo Church. The two remained lifelong Waltham residents. Mac and Kathleen had lots of fun and created many happy memories of weekend camping trips and visits to the scenic destinations across the country. In later years they were able to spend parts of the winter in Florida.

Mac was involved in many organizations where his friendly smile and affable nature earned him many friends. He was a life member of the PFC John M. Sullivan VFW Post No. 10334 and had been a member in years past of the Joseph F. Hill American Legion Post No. 156 where he was a member of the band. Long active at Our Lady’s Church in Waltham he was a member of the parish choir and was a charter member and past Grand Knight of Council No. 14710. He was also a 4th Degree member of the K of C. He was a longtime member of the Arlington Retired Men’s Club and the ‘Singing Grand-Pops’

where he and his confreres provided musical entertainment to groups far and wide.

Mac leaves his children, James M. Moran, Jr. and his wife Karen of Saint Augustine, Florida, Kathleen N. Donohoe and her husband Gerry of County Cavan, Ireland, Michael J. Moran and his wife Monica of Winchester, Judith E. Chicco and her husband Paul of Sandwich, Thomas W. Moran and his girlfriend Lorri Manning of Waltham and John B. "Jack" Moran and his wife Eileen of Townsend; his grandchildren, Kathleen Claire "Kasey" Hamel and her husband Kyle, Emily Herlihy and her husband Andrew, Christopher and his girlfriend Felicia, Michael, Meghan, Lauren Lazar and her husband Jeffrey, Kristen and her boyfriend David Justin (DJ) Pothier, Julie and her husband Matthew, Troy, Daniel, Brendan and Nicholas; his step-granddaughter Bronagh and her husband Brian of Ireland; his great-grandchildren, Ryan, Connor, Lillian, Theodore "Teddy" and Robert "Robbie"; his sister Susan Moran of Sturbridge; his sister-in-law, Marjorie McCammon of Wayland; and several nieces, nephews and their families.

Mac was also the father-in-law of the late Laurie Moran and brother of the late Mary and Priscilla Moran. Mac was predeceased by his beloved wife Kathleen.

Family and friends honored and remembered Mac's life by gathering for an evening wake in The Joyce Funeral Home, 245 Main Street (Rte. 20), Waltham on Friday, Jan. 9 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and again at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning before leaving in procession to Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted Church, 880 Trapelo Road, Waltham where his funeral mass was celebrated at 11:30 a.m. Burial took place in Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne, on Monday, Jan. 12 at 10:45 a.m.

Elaine LeBlanc, 1950–2026, former teacher’s aide at The Whittemore School in Waltham

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/08/elaine-leblanc-1950-2026-former-teachers-aide-at-the-whittemore-school-in-waltham/

Elaine P. LeBlanc (Murphy), of Waltham, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026, at The Maristhill Nursing Center surrounded by her loving friends and family. She was 75.

Elaine was the beloved daughter of the late Thomas Murphy, former editor of the Waltham News Tribune, and the late Elizabeth (Bonin) Murphy, both of Waltham. She was the loving sister of the late Thomas Murphy, Jr. of Florida, the late Kevin Murphy of Waltham, and the late Elizabeth Taylor of Houston, Texas.

Elaine’s family played an influential role in establishing the present site of the Waltham Boys & Girls Club, a legacy of community involvement that remained close to her heart.

Elaine worked for many years as a teacher’s aide at The Whittemore School in Waltham, where she formed many lifelong friendships. She treasured her summers playing cards with her dear friend Joy and others at Green Harbor in Marshfield, and she and her husband Joseph enjoyed traveling each year to his family cottage on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. They also spent many happy summers together at their campsite on Newfound Lake, New Hampshire.

Quick with a joke and always offering a warm smile, Elaine was known for her love of decorating for the seasonal holidays and for cooking for family and friends. She truly loved life and cherished her family and friendships. Elaine brought joy and laughter to all who were fortunate enough to know her and she will be deeply missed.

Predeceased by her beloved husband, the late Joseph C. LeBlanc of Waltham



and her former husband and the father of her two children Paul O'Brien.


Elaine is survived by her devoted children, Thomas Richard O'Brien of Norwood and Elizabeth P. O'Brien of Marlborough; her grandchildren, Paul and Olivia; and numerous nieces, nephews and her dear friends.

Friends and family are respectfully invited to gather and remember Elaine during visiting hours on Friday, Jan. 16, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Mary Catherine Chapel at Brasco & Sons Memorial Chapels, located 773 Moody Street, Waltham, MA, followed by a celebration of Elaine's life at 11 a.m. Interment will follow at Mount Feake Cemetery, Waltham.

Waltham Home Sales Dec. 29, 2025–Jan. 2, 2026

walthamtimes.org/2026/01/05/waltham-home-sales-dec-29-2025-jan-2-2026/

	Sale Date	Address	Sale Price	BR/Baths	Size
	12/29/2025	38 MIDDLE ST (apartment building)	\$1,500,000	6/6	4708 sf
	12/29/2025	61 HALL ST UNIT 104	\$1,049,990	2/2	1344 sf
	12/29/2025	61 HALL ST UNIT 207	\$1,169,990	2/2	1841 sf
	12/29/2025	61 HALL ST UNIT 204	\$999,990	2/2	1379 sf
	12/30/2025	61 HALL ST UNIT 202	\$980,000	2/2	1350 sf
	12/30/2025	91 PRENTICE ST	\$960,000	2/3	1610 sf
	12/30/2025	61 HALL ST UNIT 203	\$629,900	1/1	1235 sf

	12/31/2025	164 GROVE ST LOT 20	\$735,000	3/1.5	1248 sf
	1/2/2026	61 HALL ST UNIT 106	\$1,199,990	2/2	1621 sf

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
29	30	31	1 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm New Year's Day hikas at Prospect Hill Park	2	3	4 9:00 am - 10:00 am Con sabor y café: Charla entre Latinos 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Inauguration Day
5 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Introduction to the Jewish Bookshelf — Turning to the Talmud	6 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Zoning Board of Appeals meeting	7 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Bookbinding Workshop 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm School Committee meeting	8 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Conservation Commission meeting 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Waltham Cultural Council meeting 7:00 pm - 8:20 pm Minutemen Toastmasters: January meeting change	9 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm Alexander Children's Theatre School presents Disney's "Newsies"	10 8:00 pm - 10:30 pm Alexander Children's Theatre School presents Disney's "Newsies"	11 9:00 am - 10:00 am Friend Beyond Boston: Coffee social at the Café 10:00 am - 11:30 am Family Access of Newton — Open house 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Alexander Children's Theatre School presents Disney's "Newsies" + 1 More
12 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Improv for Judgement-free Communication: Virtual workshop 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Historical Commission meeting 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm Waltham City Council meeting	13 9:00 am - 10:30 am Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School info session 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Coffee Cuppings: Coffee tasting with Rob Fitzgibbon 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm National Grid — Customer assistance event + 1 More	14 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm Friends Beyond Boston: Trivia night at Joe Sent Me	15 10:00 am - 11:00 am Traffic Commission meeting 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Fiber arts night 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm First time homebuyer class at Tempo + 1 More	16 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm WINTER Social	17 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Charles River Collaboratory public workshop: Basics of 3D printing	18 9:00 am - 10:00 am BI+ Coffee Social (LGBTQIA+ Inclusive)
19	20 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Zoning Board of Appeals meeting 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Waltham City Council committee meetings	21 10:00 am - 11:00 am Living well with Parkinson's disease 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Know your pelvic floor 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Board of Health meeting + 2 More	22 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Family Access of Newton — Open house 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Conservation Commission meeting 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Women In World Jazz concert	23 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Who was Rebecca Gore? An evening tour. 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Hovey Players present Sarah Ruhl's "Eurydice" 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Acme Theater presents "Church & State"	24 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Charles River Collaboratory public workshops: Embroidery 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Hovey Players present Sarah Ruhl's "Eurydice" 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Acme Theater presents "Church & State"	25 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Hovey Players present Sarah Ruhl's "Eurydice" 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Acme Theater presents "Church & State"
26 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm Waltham City Council meeting	27 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Zoning Board of Appeals meeting	28 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Family Access of Newton — Open house 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm License Commission meeting	29	30 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Waltham Rotary Club presents Music Bingo 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Hovey Players present Sarah Ruhl's "Eurydice" 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Acme Theater presents "Church & State"	31 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Hovey Players present Sarah Ruhl's "Eurydice" 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Acme Theater presents "Church & State"	1 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Hovey Players present Sarah Ruhl's "Eurydice" 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Acme Theater presents "Church & State"



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